

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DAMASC 02980 240653Z  
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 ABF-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 AID-05  
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 L-03 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10  
EUR-12 SS-15 SP-02 SSM-03 /108 W  
-----096681 241452Z /43  
R 231523Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8139  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 2980

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PORG, MARR, PEPR, UNGA, SY LE  
SUBJ: UN FINANCES: SYRIAN SUPPORT FOR UNIFIL

REF: (A) DAMASCUS 2326, (B) USUN NEW YORK 2026

1. POLOFF HAS RAISED QUESTION OF SYRIAN VOTE ON UNIFIL FINANCING WITH DIRECTOR OF AMERICAN AFFAIRS, MFA, APRIL 25 (REFTEL A). WHILE WE ARE PREPARED TO RAISE QUESTION AGAIN AT DEPFONMIN OR FONMIN LEVEL AT NEXT AVAILABLE OPPORTUNITY, WE BELIEVE THIS A NON-STARTER. SYRIANS GIVE NO INDICATION THAT THEY ARE PREPARED TO CHANGE THEIR LONG-STANDING POSITION RE FINANCING UN MIDDLE EAST OPERATIONS. FRENCH AMBASSADOR TOLD ME MAY 18 THAT HE HAD SPECIFICALLY DISCUSSED THIS SUBJET WITH FONMIN KHADDAM EARLIER IN THE MONTH. KHADDAM HAD TOLD HIM THAT WHILE SYRIA READY TO COOPERATE WITH UNIFIL IN SUPPORT OF ITS OBJECTIVE OF SECURING RAPID ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL, SYRIA AS MATTER OF PRINCIPLE TOOK POSITION THAT AGGRESSOR SHOULD PAY COSTS OF UN OPERATIONS SUCH AS UNIFIL. DEPFONMIN QADDUR ALSO AFFIRMED THIS SYRIAN POSITION TO US IN APRIL (DAMASCUS 1978).

2. TO BELABOR THIS QUESTION AT THIS TIME WITH MINIMAL CHANGE FOR SUCCESSFUL INTERVENTION WOULD, I BELIEVE, CONFIDENTIAL

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DETRACT FROM OUR EFFORTS TO SEEK SYRIAN COOPERATION IN CONTROLLING PALESTINIAN ACTIVITY IN SOUTH LEBANON. THEREFORE, I RECOMMEND AGAINST ANY FURTHER APPROACH TO SARG AT THIS TIME ON UNIFIL FINANCING.  
PELLETREAU

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS, INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING FORCES  
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**Draft Date:** 23 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978DAMASC02980  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780219-0033  
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**TAGS:** PORG, MARR, PEPR, EFIN, SY, LE, UNGA, UNIFIL  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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